

## AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, JUVENILE SERVICES, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a framework for communication in order to improve educational outcomes for students under the supervision of the Department of Corrections. The Agreement describes the roles and responsibilities of the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, and School Administrative Units.

The Department of Corrections, through the Division of Juvenile Services, is responsible for the supervision of juveniles charged with, or adjudicated of having committed a juvenile crime.

The Department of Education is responsible for overseeing implementation of this Agreement and coordinating the connection between the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education's Project IMPACT and School Administrative Units.

National research finds that students with higher levels of education are less likely to commit crimes as juveniles or adults. Research supports collaboration across the multiple agencies serving these students as one of the most effective strategies for assuring access to educational programs and support for students to continue and complete high school.

# COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

## SECTION I

### **DEFINITIONS**

\* **Classification Conference** – A meeting following assessment and orientation of a juvenile committed to a juvenile facility to finalize the juvenile's Case Plan developed by the assessment team. This plan will be implemented while the juvenile remains at the facility and will be directed towards ameliorating risk factors contributing to his/her offending and preparing the juvenile for community reintegration.

\* **Community Reintegration Plan** – The plan developed by a juvenile's Unit Treatment Team as part of the juvenile's case plan to assure successful reintegration into the community. The plan addresses all aspects of a juvenile's life and specifically addresses a juvenile's risk factors for continued delinquent behavior.

\* **Community Reintegration Plan Review** – A meeting held prior to a juvenile's release, for a juvenile committed to a juvenile facility to review and finalize the juvenile's Community Reintegration Plan.

\* **Department of Corrections** – The Department with responsibility for services to juveniles who have been referred to the Division of Juvenile Services for action by law enforcement, placed under supervision of the Division in the community after having been adjudicated of having committed a juvenile offense, or committed to the custody of the Division (in a juvenile facility) after having been adjudicated of having committed a juvenile offense.

\* **Department of Education** -- The Department responsible for overseeing the provision of educational programs and services to eligible students through School Administrative Units, other State agencies and private schools.

\* **Detention Status** – The status of a juvenile who has been detained by a Juvenile Community Corrections Officer (JCCO), by a prosecuting attorney, or by a court order.

\* **Drug Court Sanction** – A sanction of up to 7 days in a juvenile facility imposed by the court on a juvenile in the Drug Court program.

\* **Electronic Conferencing** – One of several methods to ensure participation in meetings: teleconferencing, video-conferencing and e-mail.

\* **Facility** – A Department of Corrections juvenile facility. In northern Maine, the facility is Mountain View Youth Development Center. In southern Maine, the facility is Long Creek Youth Development Center.

\* **General Education Development (GED)** – Tests that when passed serve as the legal equivalent of a high school diploma.

\* **Individualized Education Program (IEP)** – The document which is the basis for educational programming and placement for a student receiving special education. It

## **DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)**

describes the amount and type of special education and related services the student will receive, any special accommodations or supplemental aids or services required, the goals and objectives the student may reasonably be expected to achieve, and how the student will participate in State and local assessments. If a student is 14 or older, it also contains required information related to transition planning for the student.

\* **Juvenile Community Corrections Officer (JCCO)** – The Department of Corrections employee who is both responsible for case management of a juvenile under the supervision of the Maine Department of Corrections while the juvenile is in the community and who is a member of the unit treatment team while the juvenile is in the facility.

\* **Project IMPACT (Interagency Model Project for Academic and Correctional Transition)** -- A program funded by the Department of Education through local school administrative units to assist the juvenile correctional facilities and school administrative units in planning for the transition of juveniles back into the community.

\* **Pupil Evaluation Team (PET)** – The team responsible for determining eligibility for special education, determining necessary evaluations, developing the Individualized Education Program, and determining the least restrictive environment in which to implement the Individualized Education Program. (See Maine Department of Education Regulation 101 [Maine Special Education Regulations], Section 8, for a more detailed description of membership and responsibilities.)

\* **Reclassification Conference** – A meeting held for each juvenile returned to a juvenile facility for violating the conditions of the juvenile’s Community Reintegration Plan.

\* **School Administrative Unit (SAU)** – The State-approved unit of school administration for public K-12 education in Maine.

\* **School Reintegration Team** – The school team required by Title 20-A M.R.S.A., §1055, sub-§12. This team comprises an administrator for the school administrative unit; at least one classroom teacher to whom the student will be assigned or who is involved in the school’s student assistant team; a parent, guardian, or custodian of the student; and a guidance counselor. The team is responsible for carrying out reintegration planning for juveniles returning to that community from commitment to one of the Department of Corrections’ juvenile facilities.

\* **Section 504** – The section of the federal Rehabilitation Act requiring school administrative units to make accommodations for students identified with a disability who do not require special education but do require accommodations to participate in their general education program.

\* **“Shock Sentence”** – A disposition imposed by the court for a juvenile to serve up to 30 days in a juvenile facility.

\* **Unit Treatment Team (UTT)** – The multi-disciplinary team responsible for managing a juvenile’s case plan while the juvenile is a resident of Long Creek Youth Development Center or Mountain View Youth Development Center. The team monitors behavior and treatment progress, controls advancements within the system, and recommends action to the Classification Committee. Membership comprises the Juvenile Program Manager of the resident’s unit, the unit psychologist and psychiatric social worker, the resident’s Juvenile Community Corrections Officer, the resident’s coach, the assigned mental health clinician, the assigned substance abuse clinician, a medical services representative and an education representative, and may include other individuals if indicated.

























